



THE CITY OF NEW YORK
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
NEW YORK, N. Y. 10007

April 14, 2022

The Honorable Antonio Delgado
U.S. House of Representatives
1007 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Grace Meng
U.S. House of Representatives
2209 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Elise M. Stefanik
U.S. House of Representatives
2211 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Sean Patrick Maloney
U.S. House of Representatives
464 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable John Katko
U.S. House of Representatives
2428 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Tom Reed
U.S. House of Representatives
1203 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Chris Jacobs
U.S. House of Representatives
214 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Claudia Tenney
U.S. House of Representatives
1410 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Lee Zeldin
U.S. House of Representatives
2441 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Delgado, Representative Meng, Representative Stefanik, Representative Maloney, Representative Katko, Representative Reed, Representative Jacobs, Representative Tenney, and Representative Zeldin:

Thank you for contacting me to voice your concern about the availability of flavored milk in New York City public schools. I appreciate and share your commitment to offering healthy and

nutritious food choices to all our students and to supporting our local and regional farmers and agriculture partners.

Healthier New Yorkers start in our schools. My administration is committed to empowering our students and their parents with the information and resources needed to make healthy choices for themselves and for our city. To that end, we are preparing for stakeholder engagement with our school communities to provide feedback on all aspects of our school food program. In the interim, we are not making any determinations about chocolate milk. At the discretion of the school principal, individual schools may choose to remove flavored milk from their menu as long as they continue to offer milk with every meal in accordance with United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) requirements.

Congress plays a critical role in advancing childhood nutrition and I am grateful for your continued partnership and advocacy for all New York City families. I strongly request that you consider cosponsoring and passing legislation that would enable us to pilot additional healthy food options for our students, such as H.R. 4108 the *Healthy Future Students and Earth Pilot Program Act of 2021*, introduced by Congresswoman Nydia Velázquez. This legislation amends the *Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act* by establishing a pilot grant program for school food authorities to provide healthy and climate friendly plant-based meal and milk options for students. As Congress develops its fiscal year 2023 (FY23) Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies appropriation bill, I respectfully urge you to prioritize discretionary funding for a pilot program to provide healthy drink alternatives in school lunch programs and to direct the Government Accountability Office (GAO) to commission a report examining the relationship between flavored milk consumption and health outcomes of students.

Thank you again for your commitment to New York City's school children. I look forward to engaging with you in the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Eric Adams", written in a cursive style.

Eric Adams
Mayor